



IOWA BEEF INDUSTRY COUNCIL

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U.S. Beef Industry Statistics

- January 1, 2022 Cattle inventory: 91,901,600 -2.0% (*USDA NASS*)
- 2021 estimated economic impact: \$72.874 billion in farm gate cash receipts (*USDA NASS*)
- 2017 Number of cow herds: 768,542 (2017 Census)
 - 30.125 million beef cows (January 1, 2022 -2.3%) (*USDA NASS*)
 - 9.375 million dairy cows (January 1, 2022 -0.7%) (*USDA NASS*)
 - 35.085 million head calf crop (2021 -1.2%) (*USDA NASS*)
 - 89 percent of cow herds have less than 100 cows (*2017 Census*)
- 2021 beef and beef variety exports: 1.440 million metric tons (3.174 billion pounds); \$10.576 billion (*USMEF*)
 - Top export markets: Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong/China, Mexico, Canada
- Top 5 states for Cattle on Feed (January 1, 2022) (*USDA NASS*)
 1. Texas – 2,930,000 hd; +1.4%
 2. Nebraska – 2,820,000 hd; +4.4%
 3. Kansas – 2,610,000 hd; -1.9%
 4. Iowa – 1,170,000 hd; 0.0%
 5. Colorado – 1,160,000 hd; +1.8%
- 54 percent of the total value of U.S. sales of cattle and calves comes from the top 5 states with cattle on feed inventory (2021) (*USDA NASS*)
 1. Nebraska
 2. Texas
 3. Kansas
 4. Colorado
 5. Iowa
- Feedyard cost of gain: \$0.78/lb. from 2015-2019; \$0.77/lb. in 2020, \$1.00/lb. in 2021 (*ISU Estimated Livestock Returns-Finishing Yearling Steers*)
- Average producer age: 57.4 beef cattle ranching and farming; 54.5 cattle feedlots (*2017 Census*)
- 2021: 33.184 million head of cattle harvested under USDA inspection; 27.485 billion pounds of commercial, federally inspected beef production. Average dressed weight 830 pounds. (*USDA NASS*)